Magnum in Parvo:

Or a Receipt to keep out

POPERY

FOR EVER.

In a LETTER to a Member of the Honourable

House of Commons,

Now Assembled at *Westminster*.

SInce our Deliverance has been above our Hopes, by God's Blessing, under the Conduct of that Heroick Prince, now our Gracious KING, its your part to take such Measures, That we nor our Posterity may ever fall into such terrible Convulsions again, Arbitrary Power and Popery were the justly decried Things we trembled under: For the first, you think you have Barricado'd sufficiently against by the cautious Preliminaries, but they will avail but little, if a Popish Prince shall be wheedled upon us again, for he will, nay, he must, if he be thorow-pac't, as we have had woful Experience of, commit Violence upon all Laws, tho never so backt with Oaths, and it's but reasonable according to their Principles; for all Hereditary Princes of that Communion take upon 'em a Despotical, nay, and what's worse, many not so content, assume the Legislative Power; and if they be right in that, they cannot be bound, neither indeed can they bind themselves: For it's agreed on all hands, That the Legislative Power cannot be tyed up, and therefore Pope *Paul* IV. was extremely in the right, when he declared it an Article of Faith, *That the Pope could not be bound, much less could bind himself; and if any should say otherways, the Inquisition should proceed.* Good Man, he thought himself so unaccountably qualified, as most of his Successors, out of their Superabundance of want of good Nature and Understanding have done since. *Vide Concilium Trident. pag.*

The main Business is therefore to keep out Popery, for give me leave to tell you, That when Popery comes in at one Door, Slavery comes in at the other: Yet, to prevent that, I take not upon me to advise the Dragooning way of our Neighbouring Countrey, which, without doubt, would be as effectual here, and more justifiable than it was there, as might be made out, if a Man would descend to Particulars.

Now my humble Offer to your Consideration, is a milder and softer way, and so easie, as comes not up to the Rigor and Strictness of our present Laws, which, by reason of their Severity, were rarely to the Full executed, nor I believe will now, notwithstanding the great Provocation given; and so, I doubt, will be still; for now we enjoy such a Prince, who has as just a Title, if not juster, than any of our Cognizance, to that of *Titus* the

the younger, *Delitiæ Humani Generis*, the Darling of Mankind. But now to keep you no longer in ſuſpence, let an Act, paſs (for NOW or NEVER, according to a late Device in a Horſe Colours) that all real Eſtates enjoyed by PAPISTS, ſhall be Forfeited to the next Heir at Law that will Conform, and He, She, or They to enjoy it without account, until the firſt Occupier, or a Nearer in Blood ſhall do it, allowing the firſt *Popiſh* Poſſeſſor any part, not exceeding a Fourth. And when a Family is ſo over-run with that Idiotiſm and Bigotry, that no Heir at Law will conform, the Eſtate to go to the Lords of the Fee or Fees, King, or others, to enjoy it as aboveſaid; my Life for yours, Sir, you'll find few will truſt their Sons or Brothers, however none their ſecond Couſins, or Maiden Daughters *Popiſh* Women that marry *Proteſtant* Husbands, ſhall enjoy the Priviledge of *Proteſtants* during Coverture, and no longer. By this method or the like, *Sweden* was in a ſhort time reduced to the *Auguſtan* Confeſſion, and ſo effectually it wrought, that a great Queen, now living, being impoſed upon in her Religion, made no Buſtle about the Crown, but reſign'd to the next of Blood, and went quietly off, and now receives her Penſion or Tribute, call it what you will, without Grumbling.

Roſs *Hiſtory of the World.*

After all now you muſt be kind to the multitude or many, for they have no real Eſtates, and therefore that Project cannot work upon them; yet you ought to be gentle to 'em in the Exerciſe of Religion, and that will ſoften too the Men of Real Eſtates, who have quit them out of miſled Conſcience. And that too will take off the Imputation that you are about a Religious War, which the Two Kings make ſuch a Bluſter about.

You know how ſtrict the Laws are, as to make it High-Treaſon in all *Engliſh* born, that take Orders from *Rome*; What if thoſe Sanguinary Laws were repealed, and Secular Prieſts were allowed? For they have Bowels like other Men, and are under no Obligation to Superiors but their Biſhops, and that only in relation to their Function, who are not likely to be with them upon the place; but let all Regulars be excluded upon the Penalty of Cap'ning, which will work more upon 'em than Hanging: For that will render 'em very unacceptable to the fair Sex, which governs all the World, for they, *viz.* the Regulars are not free Agents, (if they had good Nature in them, as few of 'em has) but a ſort of Animals that are managed by their Superiors, they by the Provincials, thoſe by the Generals, and the Noble Generals by the World, the Fleſh, and Devil, to perpetrate and do the moſt flagitious Acts imaginable, and juſtifie them when done by directing the Intention with a Front beyond a *French* Hiſtoriagrapher.

Now to obviate an Objection, That this is a little too ludicrous for a grave Senate; but that will abate, when you conſider vvhat Ladies of Quality have been debauch'd lately in their Religion, and retired with their Cozens's, it is not to be deſpis'd. Hovvever, that about excluding Regulars, ought ſeriouſly to be conſider'd, as being taken Notice on by the Incomparable Dr. *Burnett* in his excellent Letters, as a thing adviceable; for to be ſure the Seculars will hunt the other out as a common Enemy, for eating the Bread out of their Mouths, and ſo the Nation will be in a very ſedate Condition, as being free from the little Sophiſms of the Regulars; for that Religion can never prevail by fair Argumentation, as may eaſily ſatisfy any Body, that conſiders the ſmall Progreſs it has made theſe Four Years, notwithſtanding the encouragement of Court-Smiles, Riches and Honour: For the *Roman Catholicks*, as they Nonſenſically term themſelves, are like Apes, *The higher they climb, the more they ſhew their Arſe.*

I am Yours, T. S.

WITH ALLOWANCE.

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